



Dear painting friends,

Please forgive me for not getting this newsletter out sooner. There just never seems to be enough hours in the day. But, I am also very grateful that our business is keeping us so busy.

### NEW PACKETS

I am pleased to announce the release of seven new packets:

- #622-Acorn & Oak Leaf Tray & Bowl
- #625-A Pocketful of Rosies
- #672-Tropical Jungle, Bird of Paradise
- #673-Jacobean Splendour
- #674-Elegant Calla Snowflake
- #676-Violets & Forget-me-nots on a Tin Basket
- #677-Autumn Stroke Iris on a Hand Mirror



672 Tropical Jungle , Bird of Paradise



#674 Elegant Calla Snowflake



#677 Autumn Stroke Iris on a Hand Mirror

[Now available on line in the New packets section](#)

### SALE Sampler Brush Kits

These kits were such a huge hit at the HOOT Convention. We will have them available on my web site, as we know that many of you were not able to come to the convention. This is a chance for you to try the brushes and save a little money as compared to buying the brushes separately.

*Rounds 3, 5, 7 - \$15.95 (Reg. \$16.90)*  
*Rounds 4, 6, 8 - \$16.95 (Reg. \$18.00)*  
*Pointed Philberts 4, 6, 8 - \$15.95 (Reg. \$17.70)*  
*Liners #5/0 short and long / #0 short and long - \$12.95 (Reg. \$15.30)*

[Visit Shopping Cart now](#)



### Heart of Ohio Toile Convention

It was the busiest show I have seen in years. The trade floor was bustling every day and painters were smiling from ear to ear with all the new products and fabulous surfaces that were offered

It was also time to catch up with old friends and a chance to make new ones. My classes were full with eager students who left very pleased with their accomplishments. We were very fortunate to have an audio-visual set up that was supplied for my classes by Jo Lutness who is the owner of Painter's Paradise. With an 8 foot screen at the front of the class, everyone could clearly see even the tiniest detail.

Many, many thanks to Jo for making this all possible. If you haven't had a chance to visit the Painter's Paradise web site, please go to <http://www.paintersparadise.com> I am grateful for my wonderful friends who were my assistants in getting the classroom set up and cleaning it up again before the next class, and so much more.

Many thanks to Sandy Scales, Sally McAloon, Carol Gould, Bev Cratty and Shelly Paxson. These ladies are beautiful both inside and out! I am eternally grateful to my pal Karen Schein, who somehow keeps us all organized and is in charge of brush sales in the classes. And we couldn't do it without Dave Schein, who does more than I can even begin to tell you. To top it off, his expertise at setting up the audio-visual equipment for every class was so appreciated.

### GUEST TEACHERS 2006

Reserve your seats now with a small deposit for the following great seminars here next year:

Ros Stalcop	June 16-18
David Jansen MDA	September 8 - 10
Claudia Nice	October 13 - 15

### SCOTLAND 2006

Reserve July 1-15 for your holiday with us in this spectacular country. Jim and Lewis (*our coach driver*) are busy organizing wonderful tours for us. This year we will focus on the east coast of Scotland with an overnight trip to the East Neuk fishing villages of Fife and the Glens. We will also take an excursion down to the Lake District of Cumbria in northern England.



**Claudia Nice** is our guest teacher. She has designed a beautiful painting of the famous Eileen Donan Castle for her class. Claudia will also show us how to create a journal of quick sketches of the many sites we will see.



In my classes we will do pink roses & violets. And I am presently working on a second painting of the lovely poppies that dot the Scottish countryside.



### THE BRUSHSTROKE HANDBOOK

This is the new name for my next book that is due for release in March 2006. My work is done and now it is in the hands of North Light who will work their magic in putting it all together.

This book will be a wonderful teaching tool for teachers and will also be a resource for those who are teaching themselves how to do strokework. There are over 50 small projects with each one concentrating on just one or two strokes. And you won't believe it, but the palette for each project uses ten colours or less. There are more surprises in this book, which I'll save to share with you in the next newsletter. As soon as I know the exact release date and the cost I will let you know, so you can reserve your autographed first edition.

### COAST TO COAST SHOW, TORONTO APRIL 19 -23, 2006

This is a new show that promises to be a "don't miss event." I will be teaching two classes there and Jim & I are looking forward to welcoming you to our booth on the trade floor. Be there for my new packets from our 2005 seminars, and see our new silver handle brushes that everyone is raving about.

The organizer for this show is Audrey De-Jong from Shades of Country. Audrey has had shows all over Canada for many years now and this Toronto show will be a welcome addition.

For more information contact Audrey at: [audrey@shadesofcountry.com](mailto:audrey@shadesofcountry.com)

Web: [www.shadesofcountry.com](http://www.shadesofcountry.com)

Tel: 519-232-9047

## MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Many have asked that I let you know the magazine issues in which I will have articles. Unfortunately I never know for sure myself, until the magazine is released. They may ask for an article for a specific issue, but then find that it would be better suited for a later one. But, articles are planned for *PaintWorks*, a six part series in *PaintWorks Quick and Easy*, *Decorative Artist Workbook*, *Painting and ToleWorld*.

I've been a contributor to a compilation book on flowers by North Light, ***Painter's Quick Reference: Flowers and Blooms***. The book will be available in the Decorative Artist's Book Club [www.decorativeartistsbookclub.com](http://www.decorativeartistsbookclub.com) so keep checking their site. You can also order through their local bookstores or through Amazon.

I also did a Jacobean Tray for a compilation book by Kooler Design Studios called ***Paint a Tray***, to be released in January. You can order this book from their web site at:

<http://www.koolerdesign.com/bookcrafts.asp>

## UPCOMING TRAVEL SEMINARS

### 2005

November 2-6 : ARTISTIC EWE  
in Severna Park Maryland  
<http://artisticewe.com>

November 8 - 12, 14 - 16 :  
STEPH'S FOLK ART STUDIO, Smoketown Pennsylvania  
<http://www.stephsfolkart.com>

### 2006

January 5-11  
AMY HUI-MEI LIN STUDIO  
Taiwan  
[email:Bayou@Bayou.com.tw](mailto:Bayou@Bayou.com.tw)

January 27 - 29  
SEA STROKES OF MAINE DECORATIVE PAINTERS (SDP Chapter)  
Stephani Morancie [Stephani.Morancie@maine.gov](mailto:Stephani.Morancie@maine.gov)

February 8 - 12  
THE APPLE TREE STUDIO  
Springfield Virginia.  
[info@appletreeinc.net](mailto:info@appletreeinc.net)

March 3-5  
DEL-VAL DECORATIVE PAINTERS CHAPTER OF SDP  
[cwhite7582@aol.com](mailto:cwhite7582@aol.com)

March 17 - 19  
SHADES OF CULLER  
Fredrick Maryland [debbie@shadesofculler.com](mailto:debbie@shadesofculler.com)

April 7-9  
WINDY BRUSHES CHAPTER OF SDP [mgdumpling@hotmail.com](mailto:mgdumpling@hotmail.com)

November 10, 11, 12:  
SDP WHICITA OFFICE  
*"Home to the Heartland Seminar"* [janelle@decorativepainters.org](mailto:janelle@decorativepainters.org)

You'll find some great tips and quick recipes contributed from fellow painters. Please feel free to e-mail me with any you would like to share.

***Let's all be thankful for the joy that painting brings to our lives, and I'll look forward to seeing many of you soon,***

***Maureen***

## PAINTING TIPS

***More on "Bee Bees in the Paint Bottles"*** Add two to your paint bottles and shake for quick mixing. But, Karen from Columbus Ohio advises to Please remember to use stainless steel bee bees, as she discovered rust in her paint with the non stainless ones that she used.

***Thanks Karen!!***

### ***Brush and Tool Organizer***

My good friend Sonja Sindell from Florida shared this tip with me and was kind enough to get some for me. This is an ice tray that makes ice cylinders to go into your water bottle. It stands about 4" tall and has 30 openings that are perfect for storing your brushes and tool.

Sonja got them at Wal-Mart in Tampa but they can also be found at "Bed, Bath and Beyond" ( in the kitchen department)and other large kitchen specialty stores. I can't tell you how these trays have helped me to keep my painting table a little more organ-

**I sent out a challenge for tips to remove paint from clothes. Received the following:**

*From Deitrah Smith*

[dsmith6540@comporium.net](mailto:dsmith6540@comporium.net)

I have a wonderful product line called Melaleuca. The item that gets my acrylic paint out is their PRESPOT product.

*From Nancy A Schleicher, Napa, Ca.*

In response to your query on removing acrylic paint from clothing - yesterday I had on light tan slacks and got black green acrylic paint on them. I thought it'd never come out. I tried some Deco Magic Brush and Jewelry Cleaner by DecoArt on it. First I rubbed it with a clean cloth and got most of it out except for one small spot, so I got an old toothbrush and scrubbed, blotting occasionally with a white paper towel. It all came out!

*From Sandra in Dorion Quebec*

With regards to your quest for a Stain/ paint remover, the one I have wonderful results with is J.W.etc's SAFE-STRIP PAINT AND VARNISH REMOVER. Apply remover to the stained area, let is about fifteen mins. Then rub with your fingers , repeat if necessary. I have removed acrylic paint that had been washed dried many many times. It is environmentally safe does not hurt your hands.

## PAINTING RECIPES

Everyone who comes to our studio raves about our butter tarts, made by our wonderful caterer Wendy Gottmer. It is a treat that we save for the last day - Jim says it's to stop folks from leaving early! These squares are the next best thing to tide you over till you get back here for another seminar.

### Butter Tart Squares

#### Crust:

- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 2 tbsp. icing sugar
- 1 1/2 cup flour

Combine and press into a 9" X 9" pan.  
Bake at 350' F for 5 minutes

#### Filling:

- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup melted butter or margarine
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup raisins (optional, or add walnut pieces)

Pour filling over the crust. Place pan on a cookie sheet and bake at 350' F for 30 - 40 minutes.

### UGLY CAKE

- 1 box German Chocolate cake mix
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup coconut
- 2 sticks butter
- 1 8-oz block cream cheese
- 1 box confectioner's sugar

Allow butter and cream cheese to soften at room temperature. Combine nuts and coconut and spread in bottom of 9x13" pan. Mix cake according to directions on box. Pour over the nuts and coconut. Mix butter, cream cheese and confectioner's sugar till well blended and drop by spoons full over the top of the cake. Place pan on cookie sheet. Bake @ 325 degrees for 1- 1/4 hours or 1-1/2 hours or until center of cake is springy, not runny. Ignore the liquid that runs over, it will thicken and be gooey.

**Reminder:** Put 9x13 pan on cookie sheet to bake as the cake does run over.

*From Louise Brown*